

## Why Read FANTASY?

The question above is the *essential question* that you will consider as you read this book. The literature, activities, and organization of the book will lead you to think critically about this question, to understand the elements of fantasy writing, and, perhaps, to become one of the millions of avid fantasy readers around the world.

To help you shape your answer to the broad essential question, you will read and respond to four sections, or clusters. Each cluster addresses a specific question and thinking skill.

**CLUSTER ONE** What is a fantasy? **DEFINE**

**CLUSTER TWO** What can fantasy teach us? **ANALYZE**

**CLUSTER THREE** What's real and how do you know? **EVALUATE**

**CLUSTER FOUR** Thinking on your own **SYNTHESIZE**

Notice that the final cluster asks you to think independently about your answer to the essential question—*Why read fantasy?*